**Sexual Orientation Terminology**

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| **Terminology** | **Definition** |
| **Asexual** | A person who is not interested in sexual acts of intimacy, but rather other means of connecting with another person. |
| **Biological Sex** | In general terms, “sex” refers to the biological differences between males and females, such as the genitalia and genetic differences. For example, External Genitalia—vulva, vaginal opening, penis, scrotum; Reproductive Organs—ovaries, Fallopian tubes, vagina, uterus, testes, seminal vesicles, epididymis, vas deferens, prostate, penis; Genetic Mechanisms—chromosomes, genes, hormones; and, Secondary Sexual Characteristics (see below) |
| **Bisexual** | Romantic attraction, sexual attraction, or sexual behavior toward both males and females, or to more than one sex or gender |
| **Gay** | A male-identified person who is emotionally, intellectually, romantically, spiritually attracted to another male-identified person |
| **Heterosexual** | A person who is emotionally, intellectually, romantically, spiritually attracted to a person of the opposite-gender (based on the M/F binary) |
| **Indigiqueer/Indigequeer** | A recently created word that some Indigenous LGBTQ+ people use to define their sexuality and gender. Indigiqueer (sometimes Indigequeer) could imply dual-gender, which some Indigenous people don’t feel describes their identity |
| **Lesbian** | A female-identified person who is emotionally, intellectually, romantically, spiritually attracted to another female-identified person |
| **Pansexual** | Romantic, emotional, intellectual, or spiritual attraction to people of any sex or gender identity |
| **Sexual Orientation** | An innate or undisputable enduring emotional, romantic, or sexual attraction to other people |
| **Two-Spirit** | A modern, Native-exclusive term used by some Indigenous North Americans to describe their gender identity in Indigenous, spiritual, non-Western ways. A Two-Spirit person has specific traditional roles and responsibilities within their community, and not all Native LGBTQ people identify as Two-Spirit. |

**Gender Identity Terminology**

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| **Terminology** | **Definition** |
| **Cisgender** | A person whose gender identity matches the sex assigned to them at birth |
| **Female** | A person who self-identifies as female |
| **Gender** | Difficult to define, but it can refer to the role of a male or female in society, known as a gender role, or an individual’s concept of themselves, or gender identity. Women’s and men’s socially constructed characteristics, such as norms, roles, and relationships, vary from society to society and can be changed. |
| **Gender Identity** | One’s innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither – how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One’s gender identity can be the same or different from the sex assigned to them at birth |
| **Gender Non-Binary** | Describes a person who does not identify exclusively as masculine or feminine. Non-binary people may identify as both masculine or feminine, somewhere in between, or falling completely outside these categories. While many also identify as transgender, not all non-binary people do |
| **Gender Non-Conforming** | A person who does not identify with the male-female binary but instead seeks another gender option authentic for themselves |
| **Genderqueer** | A gender identity built around the term “queer.” To be queer is to exist in a way that may not align with heterosexual or homosexual norms. Although typically used to describe a person’s sexual orientation, one can also use genderqueer to express non-binary gender identity. |
| **Male** | A person who self-identifies as male |
| **Sex Assigned at Birth** | Assigned at birth based on external genitalia presentation, usually by a provider overseeing childbirth. Options include male, female, and intersex |
| **Transgender** | A person whose gender identity is different than the sex assigned to them at birth |
| **Two-Spirit** | A modern, Native-exclusive term used by some Indigenous North Americans to describe their gender identity in Indigenous, spiritual, non-Western ways. A Two-Spirit person has specific traditional roles and responsibilities within their community, and not all Native LGBTQ people identify as Two-Spirit. |